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Labor Neither Knave Nor Fool.

Some of the labor unions appear to be bent on plunging into politics, practical politics; while others hold resolutely aloof. The temptation to embark is very great. The situation abounds in alluring expectations, but we doubt if it is not illusory. Take the case of labor's most heroic and unselfish champion, the Great Cozenor himself, as an example. It is difficult to see wherein labor in general has derived much advantage from his sacrifices or stands to gain by them materially in the future.

His boyish mania in respect of the railroads has not helped labor much. His influence and example have undoubtedly aided in the rapid and abnormal advance of the general wage scale, but what real advantage has labor derived from it? His insane hostility to property sapped the foundations of confidence and so depreciated values that the greatest panic in our history was precipitated when our material prosperity surpassed all preceding records. Labor has not profited greatly thereby. The number of the unemployed is greater at this present moment than ever before in the history of the country. Would not a lower wage scale and greater stability of employment have injured more to the benefit of labor?

What good does a high wage scale do to the millions who cannot get work at any price? Mr. ROOSEVELT attacked the law which provided that in cases of wage controversies the parties involved might apply to the Interstate Commerce Commission for arbitration. The railroads, under the pressure of vanished earnings, proposed to apply, but were met with the information that adverse arbitration had been ordered in anticipation. It was intimated to them, as an authoritative hint, that they had better seek relief by discharging as many of their employees as possible, but that under no circumstances must the wage scale be altered.

This was doubtless an excellent policy, regard being had alone to Mr. ROOSEVELT's political needs; but what good did it do labor? If 1,000 men are turned into the streets what comfort do they derive from seeing the 1,000 that remain enjoying the wages of prosperity undisturbed? Wouldn't a little fair play be preferable? Wouldn't it have been fairer and more natural to have kept all at work at a reduction, and thus avoided the inevitable depreciation of the property and plant, than to cause so much suffering and the bitterness engendered by the spectacle of unjust preference? What advantage does general labor derive from being involved in this manner in the personal political vicissitudes of Mr. ROOSEVELT?

We think that when history reviews these times of ours it will decide that Mr. ROOSEVELT was the worst enemy that labor ever encountered. He has always flattered labor, exalted labor, excited labor's expectations and led labor to indulge in false beliefs. When under the influence of the delusions thus created labor has sought to realize its phantom privileges it has been confronted with United States bayonets on the one hand and on the other by the law, still intact and undefiled.

We will do Mr. ROOSEVELT the justice to admit that in dealing with labor he has been more or less sincere. It is not his fault that he has failed to pack the Supreme Bench with his creatures. There is no question that his contempt for the law is equal to his aversion to it. If he has offered to the Supreme Court the one supreme outrage attempted on that tribunal since its foundation, labor can truly allege that he has done it to please labor.

But what good has it done? Is labor any better off? Is it not on the contrary very much worse off? Is there not a grave reaction against its pretensions on the part of all the people? Has not the natural and wholesome sympathy of the masses been alienated? It is dangerous for labor to accept so lightly the invitation to a paranoiac dance upon the rage of the Constitution. We are not ready to permit that sort of performance. The legislative arm of the Government may be paralyzed by cowardice and selfishness, and the Executive arm even be abandoned to treason and insanity, but the judicial arm is as rigid as bronze and is

sustained, and forever will be sustained, by the will and conscience of the American people.

It is said on all sides, by people momentarily infected by Mr. ROOSEVELT, that Mr. TART cannot get the labor vote of the country for the reason that when he sat on the bench he refused to betray his oath and pollute his ermine by rendering decisions against the law but in labor's favor. We do not believe a word of it. Labor is neither depraved nor degraded, and is far more apt to vote for an upright, honest and fearless judge than for him who, with dishonest, base and treasonable purpose, has polluted the highest trust within the gift of the American people.

The Misguided Zeal of the Corsican.

What would have become of us in 1904 if Mr. ROOSEVELT's hot blooded and turbulent Corsican had been in charge of the Government's legal arsenal? There would have been no sort of security or assurance in the matter of campaign contributions. A more improper or undependable custodian of the special activities of the Federal law department could not be conceived.

Imagine a syndicate of gentlemen entering an express train for the purpose of soliciting contributions from the well to do passengers, one member armed with a loaded shotgun and the rest of the syndicate eliciting subscriptions according to the instructions of their gifted leader. Now, the gentleman with the loaded shotgun is, under proper conditions, the most potential element in nature. As long as that great moral and physical weapon is impartially and masterfully addressed it has not its equal in the whole world for cogency. But let it be once discharged, with whatever motive or immediate effect, and it becomes an embarrassment, a nullity and a futility.

Suppose the impractical and absurdly zealous CHARLES JOSEPH BONAPARTE had been entrusted with the shotgun of 1904! How horribly he would have confounded and confused the intellectual and other processes of the Bureau of Corporations, not to say the lucubrations of the Great Assessor of Contribution himself!

Germany's Rejection of an Arbitration Treaty.

A good deal of surprise seems to have been caused on our side of the Atlantic by Germany's refusal to conclude with the United States an arbitration treaty similar to the conventions which we have lately agreed upon with Great Britain and other nations. At first sight, undoubtedly, the refusal is hard to reconcile with the repeated and emphatic proofs of Germany's desire to bring about the most cordial relations with the United States, but upon reflection it will be found in harmony not only with her opposition to the establishment of a Hague tribunal and her efforts to minimize its importance but also with her determination, which since 1870-71 has become fixed, never again to hamper by treaties her power to obtain and preserve what she believes to be her rights.

The history of Germany has taught her that not until she had learned to rely upon herself alone was she able to satisfy the age long and passionate craving for national unification. So long as a part of her children leaned on one foreign Power and the rest of them on another it was inevitable that German unity should be sacrificed. During the Thirty Years War Protestant Germans looked for support to Sweden and France, Catholic Germans to Spain, with the result that the Peace of Westphalia left the Fatherland split into fragments, not again to be fused together permanently until about a generation ago. In each of the crises through which the German people passed during the two centuries preceding the Peace of Frankfurt European public opinion, so far as it was non-German, was inflexibly opposed to the fulfillment of the German desire for unity. At no time during that long period would it have been possible to find arbitrators willing to give fruition to the national wish.

Coming down to our own times, we observe that each of the three steps by which German unity was attained was accomplished in the teeth of European public opinion and by exclusive reliance on native resources. The reincorporation of the Schleswig-Holstein duchies was brought about in 1864 without the countenance of any outside State, and certainly would have been frustrated had Germany's claim been submitted to the arbitration of the sword. Prussia's struggle with Austria in 1866, a struggle indispensable to the achievement of German unity, would never have taken place had the validity of the ostensible pretext been referred to arbitration. The war of 1870 between the North German Confederation and France would never have occurred or would have been arrested quickly and would have had a very different outcome had a European Congress been invited to consider the questions nominally at issue. The seemingly headlong course pursued by Prussia at each of these fateful junctures would not have been justified by a European peace conference, but it was vindicated by the instinctive national resolve never again to miss an opportunity of establishing German unity.

Is Germany's refusal to hamper by arbitration treaties her future power of enforcing what she believes to be her rights likely to prove a source of international peril? The question might be answered in the affirmative if she or the rulers who personify her spirit were as unscrupulous as NAPOLEON I. or as NAPOLEON III., or, we may add, as WARREN HASTINGS. As a matter of fact, however, the German conscience is as clean, as alert and as clear sighted as that of any other nation. As a rule the German Government in its controversies is compelled in its own interest to take good care to have the national conscience behind it. If Germany enters into a quarrel it will be one which her people think just and for which they will be willing to die by the hundred thousand, and it is in order that such sacrifices when they are needed may not be made

in vain that her people are willing to bear for decades after decades the burden of military conscription and of a huge standing army. Their resolve is always to be prepared to make their conception of their rights prevail. That is why they will not trammel themselves by arbitration treaties, or disarm, wholly or even partially, in reliance on an international tribunal whose conscience may in Germany's opinion be no better than her own.

San Francisco and the Navy.

Coincidentally with the arrival of the fleet at San Francisco the May number of *Sunset*, a deserving magazine published in that ardent city, comes forward with a broadside, profusely illustrated, in honor of the navy. The ships are about to arrive—enthusiasm is working up to the fulminating point, Secretary MITCHELL'S Senatorial aspirations are in need of a judicious boost, everybody is in a holiday humor and no questions asked. Thus Naval Constructor H. A. EVANS furnishes a long and highly illuminated article in which he tells what, professionally known, and tells it well, adding a great deal about naval tactics, naval strategy and a dozen more aspects of the question concerning which his opinion is at least as good as that of any other landsman. "Rear Admiral" CAPPS—really the Chief Constructor of the navy and no Admiral at all—clips in with a haughty replica of his attitude toward "the critics" before the Navy Committee of some months ago at Washington, and then, as if to put the finishing touch on the structure and fan fervor to madness, there is a discriminating article on the fleet's expense account, which winds up with these pregnant words:

"The money spent by the thousand officers and twenty-five thousand men will in itself be of great benefit to the Pacific Coast, for the payroll will be nearly a million dollars a month, and it can be safely assumed that \$400,000 of this will be spent each month while the fleet is in these waters."

This sufficiently accounts for the dearth which has raged all along the coast ever since the fleet left Magdalena Bay—the school children singing gladly, the citizens in carriages, young ladies spottedly arrayed, the financial stress and moral exhaustion of the officers, the obvious demoralization of Jacky, and the bloated, not to say drooping, condition of the local purveyors from one end of the itinerary to the other.

No doubt the fleet is right enough, as its self-appointed laureates proclaim, for after all a ship's efficiency in battle must be measured by standards of manhood, marksmanship and stamina, and there the American vessel knows few equals if any, and no superiors whatever. We can understand, moreover, the Pacific Coast jubilation over the occasion of a gathering so impressive and so picturesque. And there is, of course, the possible question of Mr. MITCHELL'S election to the Senate. But why, oh, why have unearthed "Admiral" CAPPS and his shopworn and discredited arguments before the Senate Naval Committee? Everybody remembers that he was overthrown by the testimony of such line officers as Commanders KEY, HILL and VOGELSBANG and Captain CAMERON WINSLOW. It is still fresh in the memory of this part of the country that Senator HALE, the chairman of the committee, suddenly arrested the hearing, that CAPPS was muzzled and set aside and the whole inquiry abandoned in what looked very much like disheveled haste. Perhaps, more than likely, in fact, the far off magazine, *Sunset*, had not heard or did not fully comprehend this aspect of the matter.

Meanwhile the fleet has reached San Francisco and departed. Further ebullitions will attend its arrival in Puget Sound. Hysteria will maintain itself throughout, and then away to Auckland and all the rest of the Polynesian places, and the hysteria in this country at least will subside and the rapture and the disbursements will distribute themselves accordingly. But the Pacific Coast will have fattened on the golden rain, Mr. MITCHELL'S reputed aspirations will have experienced a much needed impetus, and for the rest, what? Honestly, we don't know.

Greeting to Some Old Friends From Franklin Square.

We respectfully notify the administration of the esteemed establishment which fortunately escaped destruction early yesterday morning that they have done a rather cruel thing in putting forth this month's *Monthly* in the once familiar reprint of the last century; that is, unless the benevolent intention is to resume and stay resumed. For hundreds of thousands of Americans, educated years ago in this particular school of superior literature, the reappearance of the columns, the capitals, the basket bearing cherubs, the sporadic roses, and particularly the infant blower of soap bubbles seated so impossibly and in such constant danger of sliding off into the inkstands below, will be both a reminder of past joys and a stimulant of present affection. In the most friendly spirit THE SUN protests against any return to the vagaries of contemporaneous art in the matter of cover design.

The magazine itself was never so good as it is to-day. The cover of the magazine has never been so good as it was in the ancient days of the beginning.

The Dog Question.

There are no stancher friends, no fonder friends of the dog than the English. Probably the finest dog stories in the world are to be found in their literature: witness "Rab and His Friends" and "Bob, Son of Battle." The dog is a cult in England. All his best traits have been developed in that country by intelligent and indefatigable breeding.

But being a practical people the English do not get maudlin over the dog; and on the other hand, dog haters are uncommon. As soon as a case of rabies is credibly reported in a district in England dogs at large must be muzzled or led in leash. It follows that a harrowing case like that of the late WILLIAM H. MARSH of Brooklyn is of rare occurrence. No longer is there any real danger of hydrophobia in England.

The dog question is now uppermost and urgent in New York. It has reached

the emotional stage. Dog haters—and there are some people who have an instinctive antipathy to dogs—would banish the dog altogether or exterminate him. Other people who have no particular love for the dog and some who are rationally fond of him maintain that a great city like New York is no place for an animal that needs fresh air and exercise as much as a human being does. This is a humane view. Then there arises the question whether the dog in the city can be kept without invading the rights and interfering with the comfort of those persons who are not dog owners. It is true there are innumerable nuisances inseparable from city life that cannot be always abated and that have to be borne, but there might be a law or ordinance going away with dogs in a great city altogether. However, we don't think there will be for the friends of the dog are legion, and a well bred, well trained and well cared for dog is seldom a nuisance. It is the common cur, the vagrant dog, the dog neglected and allowed to run loose that is a nuisance and undeniably a danger. And this is true of the suburbs as well as of New York.

The problem, hydrophobia being admitted to be a real danger to man and avoidable if not entirely preventable, is how to get rid of the vagrant dog and regulate the public appearances of the dog that has an owner. The street cur that lives the nomadic life has no rights in this community. The dog that has an owner and is supposed to have care should never be allowed to run loose, and in times when hydrophobia is feared he should be muzzled or led in leash. At other times it should be sufficient to require that he be accompanied by his owner or a caretaker, who should be held responsible for him. Of course a reasonable dog tax should be imposed everywhere.

If such restrictions and precautions were enforced we should hear no more of hydrophobia, or it would be reduced to a negligible quantity in the affairs of government. The sooner they are framed into ordinances and carried out by the police power and obeyed by owners the better it will be for dogs of all degrees as well as for their lovers and haters and all humane and excitable folk.

Probably the policy of the Metropolitan Opera Company in engaging young American singers is not altogether the result of a desire to develop native talent. Experience has recently shown that it is the part of wisdom to secure control of them before they have met with success abroad. Their services after they have made a reputation in Europe are more expensive.

Just now there happen to be in Europe several American singers who could take rank with the best that ever came to the United States. Any of these men would prove valuable at either of New York's opera houses, more valuable at the Metropolitan because of the presence of the Wagner operas in its repertoire. It is not possible to secure the services of any of these artists now without paying them large salaries and perhaps the forfeit necessary to release them from their contracts abroad. Yet they might readily have been engaged only a few years ago on much more advantageous terms, and then have acquired here, and in some of the foreign operatic theatres during the off season, the training necessary to show their talents in their best estate. The engagement of a noted American concert singer to appear next season at the Metropolitan may be taken as an indication of the new plan to be tried there.

Tibet was never quite so hermetically sealed against the white man as to-day. About a dozen explorers have smuggled themselves into the country in the past generation with the full consent of all Europe, but their followers of the present have not only the Tibetan Government to tell them to get out but also Great Britain to tell them to keep out.

Not a white man is in Tibet to-day. The British got out of the Chumbi Valley in February when Tibet paid the final instalment of the indemnity. The Englishman who acted as commercial agent at Gyantse has been replaced by a native Indian. Trade relations must be unhampered at the three treaty points, but only Indian functionaries will attend to insist upon deal. All whites are contraband in that remarkable region.

This makes little difference as far as our geographical knowledge of Tibet is concerned. The land is no longer a mystery. There were two long, wide stretches of the country which were wholly unknown when the British marched on Lhasa. One of them extended from the northwest corner to the central lakes and the other through southwestern Tibet to Gartok. The veil has been lifted from both these regions by the Rawlinson and Sven Hedin expeditions.

Not a map yet published shows the full course of the upper Brahmaputra or the sources of that river, the Indus and the Sutlej, or the lake and mountain region of the northwest, or the mighty range with its outliers that fills the whole white space in the southwest, and of which we had no inkling till now. But the information is all recorded, and the new map of Tibet will appear in due time.

It will be a very good map of the forbidden land. Some small white spaces will remain, to be sure, but that is the case even in our own domain.

The Idol of Rain.

Thunder, thunder, thunder; make the wearied planet tremble; Make the "factotum" men who do things, fly around and stand under; Throttle traffic, cripple commerce; then you side-step and dissemble; Howling, "Hail, makefactor," when you blunder, blunder, blunder.

Dine a negro at the White House, as did even Lincoln never. Against half a nation's protest; then by arbitrary power. Lacking power or right of reason, even lacking fair advantage.

Make a guiltless black battalion as convicted felons cover. Evade your Woods and Pershings; club your Brownsons, Milnes, Deweys; Rake your friend for fifty thousand, then howl "makefactor, hail."

Make the eighty millions suffer for the guilt that with the few is. Then kill the words "In God We Trust," and bid the world look higher.

We are looking, Mr. President, by the light that God has given. We are weighing from the tons of chaff the grains of golden wheat; And we find our idol's pedestal, our Country, ruin'd by rivers.

BATTERED, BUT STILL IN THE RING.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Surely the ways of the American Congress are dark and mysterious. Two years ago an ocean mail service bill was passed by the Senate and rejected by the House. Last year such a bill passed the House and was killed by a filibuster in the Senate. This year the Senate passes the bill and the House may defeat it. The vote of Friday was not necessarily final, inasmuch as the Senate refuses to accept the decision of the House. There is further consideration, and pending another vote there is great activity in both camps. As the House vote shows only a narrow margin it is possible that a few Republicans can be induced to change their vote and thus change the result.

It is probable that a considerable part of the objection to the bill arises out of the use of the word "subsidy," a term which is to many Democratic Congressmen very much what a red rag is to a bull. In there more solid ground for objection to the measure than that? It is distinctly a business proposition, a device for increasing our commerce in a number of markets of great and growing importance. It involves no new principle, no new policy, no new system. As the measure stands it is no more than a broadening of a law already on the books.

The passage of this bill means an important increase in our sales abroad, the opening of much needed lines of mail and passenger communication. It means profits to American business men and wages to American work people. Its final defeat means the closing of a door of a measureless opportunity. Before the final vote is taken light may fall on a few new darkened minds, an experience not entirely beyond hope.

THE HYDROPHOBIA SCARE.

A Dog Hater Wants Dogs Suppressed and a Dog Lover Asks Some Questions.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: All who keep a dog run the risk of meeting the fate of Dr. Marsh, who died of hydrophobia, and they expose others to the same risk.

Dogs not only cause hydrophobia but they cause ill health and sometimes death by the noise they make. There is a time when dogs may have been useful, but now there is nothing that they can do that cannot be done better. Burglar insurance companies would not be troubled by their barking. If the insured has electric burglar alarm protection; they won't make a reduction of one-tenth of 1 per cent. on account of the insured keeping dogs.

Hydrophobia is a disease which is spread in the United States. How many are killed directly or indirectly by the noise which dogs make no one knows, but a large proportion of the people have become discomfited and in some cases may cause death.

NEW YORK, May 22.

For the Board of Health to Answer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: What is the condition of the New York Board of Health with respect to hydrophobia, the physician who performed the autopsy in the case of the late William H. Marsh? Two questions: What per cent. of the dogs examined by the Board of Health show the germ of hydrophobia, and how many of the doctors know it when they see it?

NEW YORK, May 22. WILLIAM M. CROTHERS.

The Significance of Alabama.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: There seems to be a Bryan bureau in Washington that is industriously circulating telegrams through the various Bryan newspapers.

The conditions were as follows: About four months ago Bryan was in Alabama and spoke, and immediately thereafter the Bryan forces became active, and as it then looked like a victory for Bryan, the Bryan forces were practically all the newspapers of the State, a large part of the politicians and many of the professional men to support Bryan. Bryan clubs were organized in every county in the State, and have since that time been actively at work.

Two weeks before the primary election a party of business men formed a committee to work for Johnson. They met tremendous opposition, because they could not get the support of the newspapers, and in the limited time they had it was difficult to reach the anti-Bryan men in an organized way. They held meetings, however, in the larger towns, and the Bryan clubs flooded the State with literature, and the newspapers belittled in every way the efforts of the Johnson committee. In spite of this the newspapers now admit that Johnson polled about one-third of the votes in the State, and the official vote may show that he polled more than this. Johnson carried several counties in the State and most of the cities. The Bryan vote was, of course, large in the country districts, which the Johnson committee could not reach.

If the Bryan forces cannot see that the result is a vigorous slap at their candidate they are unable to read the signs.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 20. A DEMOCRAT.

From a Southern Cook Book.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Here are my mother's recipes. Washington pie and two other recipes from way down South on the Chattahoochee River where the Indians once roamed. They are intended for the benefit of all lovers of good things to eat.

Washington pie: Six yolks of eggs, three light cups of sifted flour, two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, two cups of sifted sugar, all mixed thoroughly; add the whipped whites of six eggs, and just as the cakes are to be baked add four teaspoonfuls of sweet milk, with one teaspoonful of carbonate of soda in it; bake in jelly cake pans in a quick oven. The mock chocolate filling between the cakes is: One cup of sweet milk in a double boiler and when it begins to boil put in two eggs, whites and yolks well beaten, one cup of sifted sugar, one cup of sifted flour, and stir until thick. Place in a pan and spread between cakes and sift powdered sugar on top of cake.

Marshmallow soufflé: Whites of twelve eggs, three teaspoonfuls of gelatine dissolved in half a cup of warm water, one tablespoonful of vanilla and half of the juice of a lemon, all whipped stiff and put on ice. Serve this with marshmallows on top and yellow boiled custard, or whipped cream around it.

Lady Baltimore cake: A big cake, or four layers: One cup of butter, two cups of sifted sugar, one cup of milk, one cup of sifted flour, one cup of sweet milk, two level teaspoonfuls of baking powder, whites of six eggs whipped stiff, one teaspoonful of vanilla, and one teaspoonful of rose water; add the whites of six eggs, stiff. Filling and icing: Three cups of sifted granulated sugar in one cup of boiling water, whites of four eggs whipped stiff. To this thing add one cup of chopped raisins and one cup of grated pecans, and six figs, cut in small pieces; mix thoroughly, then put between the layers of cake, and ice on top and sides of the cake.

SOUTHERN WOMAN.

The Sweet Hunter.

Now doth the Sweet Girl Graduate wear A Merry Widow on her golden hair; With swagger edge like a timber saw.

Ah, met in sophisticated days of old, When certain youths on certain nights were bold, When cooling coeds hurried Cuckoo's darts, We used to woo them—and we lost our hearts.

But now, alas! we can't cross the curbs Of cupiding Fancie's Seminary girls, For they have tucked up to date coats and hats In Merry Widows—just we look our heads! DUMMETT LOVE.

FOREIGN NOTES OF REAL INTEREST.

The jewels and objects d'art sent from France to the London exhibition are valued at more than 125,000,000 francs.

At the annual dinner of the Royal Colonial Institute the Prince of Wales, speaking in the presence of a widely travelled audience, including almost every notable in London connected with the empire, said: "Without boast I may claim that probably no one in the room has landed on so many different portions of British soil as I have."

The recent disastrous accidents in the British navy have given rise to an agitation against the practice of conducting manoeuvres and sham attacks at night without lights. That frequent spokesman on naval matters T. G. Bowles urges that "it would be as reasonable to carry on manoeuvres with shotless guns and live torpedoes in order to account the men to face them." The *Fines* advocates the continuance of the practice.

Not more than forty-two certificates of naturalization were granted to aliens last month in Great Britain. Fifteen came from Germany, three from Austria, four from Sweden, three from Austria, two from Greece and one each from France, Italy, Rumania and Persia. Two were described as being subjects of no foreign State.

The original version of Flaubert's "Tentation de St. Antoine" has been published in Paris. It differs widely from that at present in circulation.

The largest family in Paris has eight sons and the daughters living and three children dead. The eldest son applied the other day for exemption from military service. In granting his request the authorities exhorted him to help his father in the arduous task of rearing such a numerous progeny.

It is hoped that a conference of the Postmaster-General of Europe will be held this year in London with a view to introducing a word telegraph throughout Europe. The British Postmaster-General estimates the diminution of revenue through the adoption of a word telegraph at £1,000,000, which would not involve any actual loss, the present profits being in excess of that figure.

A "Salon of Poetry" was inaugurated this month in Paris by the Minister of Public Instruction, supported by the Under Secretary of State for the Fine Arts. The new salon is held in the same building as the Salon of the Académie—the Palais des Beaux-Arts. Fifteen hundred French poets have "sent in." It is not stated how many have been accepted. Those who are "put on the line" by the hanging committee will appear at the Salon, but it is not clear whether the leading actors will be themselves.

Ambitious managers of "moving picture" theatres will be interested in a suit for damages recently brought by the heirs of Gounod, Barbier and Carré against the Kinema Theatre in Paris for giving "Faust" with portions of Gounod's music. The plaintiffs allege that this amounted to a real "representation."

Montenegro is building a new capital at Antivari, the port of its present capital. The works, which are in the hands of Italian contractors, were inaugurated this month by the ruling Prince, who insisted in his speech on the necessity of international cooperation to Italy on the one hand and to Russia on the other, while he left Austria out in the cold. It is supposed that the new town is to be the terminal of Russia's Balkan line, and the construction of it is regarded as a considerable diplomatic importance for that reason.

A French naval expert, M. A. Rousseau, taking "ships of the Dreadnought era" as the vital part of contemporary navies, calculates that by the end of 1908 Great Britain will have fallen below the "two Power standard." The French fleet, however, which is being built up, possesses the following strength in such ships:

	Eng-land.	Ger-many.	U.S.A.	France.	Japan.
Battleships.....	8	7	4	6	6
Cruisers.....	4	2	—	—	8
Totals.....	12	9	4	6	8

Thus the only combination to which Great Britain would be superior, on this showing, is that of the United States with France.

The medals to be awarded at the Olympic Games in London are now being exhibited in the Royal Academy. The artist is a talented young Australian, Bertalan Marston. They are said and appear from photographs to be finely imagined and executed. The reverse of the prize medal shows St. George riding down the dragon, with an angel looking on; that of the commemorative medal, a winged Fame, erect, with a palm in the right hand and a trumpet in the left. The reverses are to be used this year alone. The obverse, it is said, has been adopted for use at future Olympic meetings. The obverse of the prize medal shows an athlete being crowned by two female figures; that of the commemorative medal a victor returning home in a four horse chariot.

The French are adopting a new verb, "business," meaning to transact affairs in a bold, energetic and successful manner. It is derived from the English word "business" may be taken as another tribute to the commercial superiority of the Anglo-Saxon.

A correspondent of the *Saturday Review* protests against the increasing use of "now and again" for "now and then" or for "once and again."

The Grand Duke Michael of Russia says in the preface to his novel "Kater Sak De," which is understood to be largely autobiographical: "Belonging, as I do, to the imperial blood, and being a member of one of the reigning houses, I should like to prove to the world that I am not a member of the ruling class, the happiest beings on earth." He is perhaps less open to the charge of "giving glimpses of the obvious" when he says: "As Paris in the days of its glory was the centre of art, beauty and intellect, it is the duty of every citizen to hold unswerving to this proud position."

The London press is somewhat agitated by a bill introduced into Parliament by the Lord Chancellor to regulate the publication of "official secrets." Clause I. of the new bill runs: "The documents to which the act applies shall be those documents of a confidential or confidential character, and any communication relating to public affairs from or to any predecessor of the reigning sovereign or any recent during his reign, the date of which is less than forty years previous to the publication, and the act shall apply to the publication, and any communication relating to public affairs from or to the reigning sovereign, whether before or after his accession." The *Spectator* comments that if the act were construed literally the liberty of the press would be most seriously curtailed, that the publication of naval and military affairs would be practically stopped, and that letters from or to British sovereigns could be published in any foreign country, while they were suppressed in England.

Government Coal Mines in Philippines.

From the *Washington Post*. After ten years' inquiry the fact that the last five of which have been passed on State Island, where the Government coal mines are located, W. H. Penney, employed by the Quartermaster's Department of the army as superintendent of the mines, is making his first visit to Washington. "Batian Island is located south of Manila, about a two days' journey by water from that city," said Mr. Penney. "The Government owns the west half of the island, and the mines cover considerable territory. I cannot say that life in Batian is a wild record of hardship. In the five years I have been there I do not think there have been at any one time more than seventeen white persons of whom were women, wives of Government employees, on the island. The employees in the mines are Japanese and negroes, the latter natives of the island."

Social Event in Oklahoma. South Creek Correspondent Telegram Advertiser. Several from there parts attended the Real Debauch wedding at Taloga, Easter Sunday.

An Epitaph. The ash man to his wife, But oh, the plans for the wedding, which were so grand, But the grave was not there, and he had to go.

ROMAN HOLIDAYS.

An Effort to the Honest With Antiquity.

Courtesy, 1908, by W. D. Howells.

Rome, May 8.—My visit to the Roman Forum, through the